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THE FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION
(VOICED VERSION AND INSERTS IN LIBRARY)

ANNCR:

FOR MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY THE FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN PROVIDING AMERICANS WITH INFORMATIVE ANALYSES OF MAJOR FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES. VOA'S SIDNEY PAUL TALKED TO THE ASSOCIATION'S CHAIRMAN, CARTER BURGESS, AND HAS THIS REPORT ON THE ORGANIZATION:

VOICE:

PRESIDENTS ARE ELECTED EVERY FOUR YEARS IN THE UNITED STATES, BUT EVERY CITIZEN IS ELECTED FOR LIFE TO PLAY HIS OR HER ROLE AS A RESPONSIBLE CITIZEN. THAT'S THE WAY MISTER CARTER BURGESS, CHAIRMAN OF THE FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION EXPLAINS THE THRUST OF HIS ORGAINZATION'S WORK -- TO CREATE RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS BY DEVELOPING AN INFORMED, THOUGHTFUL AND ARTICULATE PUBLIC OPINION ON FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES FACING THE NATION.

THE FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION -- THE FPA -- IS THE OLDEST NATIONALLY-BASED GRASS ROOTS INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS ORGANIZATION IN THE U.S. FOUNDED ON ARMISTIC EVE IN 1918, IT IS A NON-PROFIT, NON-PARTISAN ORGANIZATION THAT PROVIDES A VARIETY OF PROGRAMS AND PUBLICATIONS ANALYZING FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES. IT AIRS KEY DIVERSE POINTS IMPARTIALLY AND ADVOCATES NO SPECIFIC POSITION ON ANY ISSUE.

FPA CHAIRMAN CARTER BURGESS BELIEVES THAT IN A DEMOCRACY, IDEALLY, THE ORDINARY CITIZEN SHOULD HELP SHAPE PUBLIC OPINION ON FOREIGN POLICY. BUT TO FULFILL THIS FUNCTION THE GENERAL PUBLIC NEEDS MORE INFORMATION THAN ORDINARILY IS PROVIDED BY THE PRESS.

TAPE: CUT ONE -- BURGESS

"WELL, THERE'S ABSOLUTELY NO SUBSTITUTE FOR THE PRESS AND THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS, HOWEVER THE PRESS MANY TIMES HAVE TO DEAL WITH A CRISIS SITUATION. WHAT WE TRY TO DO IS TO GIVE BACKGROUND SO THAT WHEN THOSE PRESS RELEASES AND PRESS COVERAGES COME OUT -- THE AMERICAN PUBLIC KNOWS A LITTLE MORE ABOUT THE SUBJECT THAN READING ABOUT IT IN ITS CRISIS POSITION."

ANNCR:

THE FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION STIMULATES THINKING ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS THROUGH BRIEFINGS, PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS AND PUBLICATIONS. ONE PROGRAM, CALLED "GREAT DECISIONS," INVOLVES SEVERAL HUNDRED THOUSAND PEOPLE IN WORLD AFFAIRS DISCUSSION GROUPS IN NEARLY ONE THOUSAND COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY. THROUGH ITS "GREAT DECISIONS" BALLOTS, FPA'S PARTICIPANTS MAKE THEIR VIEWS KNOWN TO POLICY PROFESSIONALS IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL AND TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

ANOTHER PROJECT OF THE FPA IS THE PUBLICATION OF ITS "HEADLINE SERIES." THIS IS A BIMONTHLY SERIES OF SHORT, TOPICAL BOOKLETS ON KEY FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS AND AREAS OF THE WORLD WRITTEN BY EXPERTS FROM BUSINESS, GOVERNMENT AND THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY.

AND THERE'S AN ANNUAL SERIES OF APPROXIMATELY THIRTY SEMINARS AND BRIEFINGS IN NEW YORK CITY AND WASHINGTON, D.C. EXPERTS DISCUSS FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS. RECENTLY, SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER SPOKE ON "THE LAW OF THE SEA"; PRESIDENT-ELECT JIMMY CARTER DISCUSSED "RELATIONS BETWEEN THE WORLD'S DEMOCRACIES"; AND CORRESPONDENTS FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMPANY DISCUSSED DIFFERENT ISSUES WITH ONE THOUSAND NEW YORKERS FROM VARIOUS WALKS OF LIFE.

HOW WOULD MISTER BURGESS SUM UP THE ATTITUDE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE TOWARDS FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON THE EVE OF A NEW ADMINISTRATION?:

TAPE: CUT TWO -- BURGESS

"WELL, I THINK THAT'S BEST SHOWN IN OUR BALLOT COUNT, AND THAT'S THE WAY WE LEARN THE TEMPERATURE OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC. I THINK THE AMERICAN PUBLIC WANTS -- THE AMERICAN CITIZENS, AT LEAST, THAT PARTICIPATE IN OUR PROBLEMS -- WANT THE U.S. TO BE NON-ISOLATIONIST. THEY WANT US TO TAKE AN ENGLIGHTENED POSITION ON WORLD POLICY. THEY DON'T WANT US TO ALWAYS DO IT ALONE -- THEY'D LIKE FOR US TO DO IT IN CONCERT WITH OTHERS. THERE'S GREAT INTEREST ON TRYING TO CURE THE FAMINE PROBLEM IN THE WORLD. THERE'S ALSO AN INTEREST IN SEEING IF WE CAN'T GET SOME BETTER EMPHASIS AND CONTROL ON POPULATION GROWTH, PARTICULARLY WHERE IT'S CAUSING MORE HUNGER, MORE POVERTY. AND SO I WOULD HAVE TO SAY THAT I'M ENCOURAGED THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE TAKING AN INCREASED INTEREST IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND I BELIEVE GOVERNOR CARTER'S EFFORTS WILL INCREASE THAT WHEN HE BECOMES PRESIDENT."

VOICE:

THERE IS A FRAMED QUOTATION ON THE WALL IN MISTER BURGESS'S OFFICE. IT'S FROM EDMUND BURKE, AN ENGLISH STATESMAN AND POLITICAL WRITER. IN THE SEVENTEEN HUNDRED'S, BURKE OPPOSED HIS KING'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE AMERICAN COLONIES. THE QUOTE READS: "ALL THAT IS NECESSARY FOR THE FORCES OF EVIL TO WIN IN THE WORLD IS FOR ENOUGH GOOD MEN TO DO NOTHING." THE PURPOSE OF THE FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION, ACCORDING TO MISTER BURGESS, IS TO KEEP ENOUGH GOOD MEN THINKING -- AND ACTING.

JS/PY